

Executive Summary of 2015 – 2018 IFC COMPARISON,

**prepared by the Fire Marshals Association of Utah and presented and approved
by:**

The Utah State Fire Prevention Board

This executive summary is a little bit untraditional in that it is set up by chapter list rather than narrative form. The hope is that it will be easier for those reading the document to make easy reference.

Furthermore, it is believed that all costs associated with the changes will be individually based and not have a broad-based impact. Of those items that are individually based, the cost could be minor to significant depending on their current arrangement of the existing occupancies.

For example requiring a fire sprinkler system on a floor that was not previously covered could cost up to \$100,000 dollars or more depending on the scope of work.

Chapter 1

There were nine permits added as part of additions to the code. No significant economic impact.

Chapter 2

Many new definitions are given to coincide with new chapters. In addition, occupation type definitions have been redefined to coincide with the State Health Departments standards.

Chapter 3

315.3.1 Ceiling clearance now mirrors the State amendment and can be deleted.

319 Mobile Food Preparation Vehicles. Very similar to rule established last year.

Chapter 4

Lockdown plans require the approval of the fire code official

Chapter 9

901.6.2.2 High-rise buildings. Requires integrated testing of high-rise buildings to conform to NFPA 4. The test performance every 10 years or what's required by the design documents.

This test is in addition to other required tests such as those required by NFPA 25 for water based fire protection systems and NFPA 72 for fire alarm systems. There may be a marginal cost for high-rise building owners for vendors to test or assist in testing systems.

903.2.2 Ambulatory care facilities. Requires fire sprinklers in the entire building rather than just the entire floor and all floors below leading to exit discharge.

Not believed to be significant in financial impact. Most buildings will already have the entire building fire sprinklered already.

Chapter 11

1103.9 Carbon monoxide alarms. The new code requires CO alarms based on use (Dwelling units, Sleeping units) and gives sole battery options. However the State amendment still provides a better framework for CO alarms and their use.

1105.9 Group I-2 automatic sprinkler system. Adds fire sprinkler requirement to below the level of exit discharge in Group I-2 occupancies.

Similar to 903.2.2 most buildings will already have this in place. However, if it does require installation the cost could be significant to the individual owner.

Chapter 12

All elements of Chapter 6 related to energy systems with some additional requirements.

1204.2.1 Solar photovoltaic systems for Group R-3 buildings. Exception 1 eliminates buildings built under the IRC from this requirement. Recommend amending exception 1.

Chapter 31

Title change. Adds safety requirements for outdoor assemblies including stages and other events. Comes as a result of injuries at an outdoor concert with a weather event. Conforms to mass gathering requirements of the health department.

Chapter 32

Two significant changes. First, increased fire access doors from 100 ft. to 125 ft. AND commodities now align with NFPA 13 commodity classifications. This will save time and money for design professionals when designing fire suppression for high piled storage. More importantly it will reduce the risk of design deficiencies by decreasing commodity misclassification.

Chapter 38

Entire new chapter on higher education laboratories. As a B Occupancy, places safety requirements primarily centered on hazardous material storage and handling.

Chapter 39

Should not affect Utah unless Utah legalizes cannabis.

Chapter 51

Cooking sprays have been classified and several regulations placed on storage.